

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification, wherein a clean version of the Abstract as amended is attached to the end of this reply:

~~The present invention provides a gene that can be used extensively in studies relating to resistant rice blast fungi.~~

~~The gene codes for either one of the following proteins (a) or (b):~~

- ~~(a) a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2; or~~
~~(b) a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2 by deletion substitution or addition of one or more amino acids, which exhibits scytalone dehydratase activity in the presence of a scytalone dehydratase inhibitor.~~

The present invention provides a gene that can be used extensively in studies relating to resistant rice blast fungi. The gene codes for either one of the following proteins (a) or (b): (a) a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2; or (b) a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2 by deletion, substitution or addition of one or more amino acids, which exhibits scytalone dehydratase activity in the presence of a scytalone dehydratase inhibitor.